Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (previously amended): An image processor comprising:

a plurality of function blocks connectable to each other and dealing with image data;

an interface connected to a network; and

a bus changer which changes bus connections among said plurality of function blocks and said interface.

Claim 2 (previously amended): The image processor according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of function blocks comprise an image input block which receives image data, an image processing block which deals with image data, and an image output block which outputs the image data.

Claim 3 (original): The image processor according to claim 2, wherein said image input block receives image data read with an image sensor.

Claim 4 (original): The image processor according to claim 2, wherein said image output block prints an image on a registering medium.

Claim 5 (previously amended): The image processor according to claim 2, wherein said bus changer which is connected to the image input block changes the bus connection such that image data from said network is received through said interface and sent to said network through said image output block or said interface.

Claim 6 (original): The image processor according to claim 1, wherein one of said function blocks comprises a memory which stores an application program, and a controller which processes the image data according to the application program.

Claim 7 (original): The image processor according to claim 6, wherein said memory has a capacity which stores another application program further.

Claim 8 (original): The image processor according to claim 6 wherein said memory comprises a management table which manages the application programs stored therein.

Claim 9 (previously amended): An image processor comprising:

a plurality of function blocks connectable to each other and dealing with image data;

an interface connected to a network;

a bus changer which changes bus connections among said plurality of function blocks and said interface; and

a controller which discriminates data received from said network and controls data transmission to one of the function blocks to be operated.

Claim 10 (original): The image processor according to claim 9, further comprising a power supply controller which supplies electric power to function blocks to be operated in said plurality of function blocks.

Claim 11 (original): The image processor according to claim 10, wherein said power supply controller stops power supply to said function blocks after processing in said function blocks is completed.

Claim 12 (previously amended): The image processor according to claim 9, wherein said plurality of function blocks comprise an image input block which receives image data, an image processing block which deals with image data, and an image output block which outputs the

image data.

Claim 13 (previously amended): An image processor comprising:

a plurality of function blocks connectable to each other and dealing with image data;

an interface connected to a network;

a bus changer which changes bus connections among said plurality of function blocks and said interface;

a memory having a function management table to manage executable functions; and

a controller which requests an external apparatus connected through said interface and said network to operate a function when the function is not managed in the function management table in said memory.

Claim 14 (original): The image processor according to claim 13, wherein one of said function blocks comprises a memory which stores an application program, and a controller which processes the image data according to the application program.

Claim 15 (original): The image processor according to claim 14, wherein said memory has a capacity which stores another application program further.

Claim 16 (original): A method of controlling image processing in an image processor including a plurality of function blocks, comprising following steps of:

receiving a request to perform a function;

deciding whether the function is executable in said image processor; and

changing bus connection between a necessary function block and said interface to operate an external apparatus connected through an interface connectable to said network when the function is decided not executable in said image processor.

Claim 17 (original): The method according to claim 16, wherein the decision is performed with reference to a management table provided to manage executable functions stored in a memory.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of sending a signal to request execution of the function to the external image processor.

Claim 19 (New): An image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of processing units including at least an image input unit which receives image data and an image output unit which outputs image data;

a network interface connecting said plurality of processing units to a network; and

a changer which changes a first state, wherein a processing unit in said plurality of processing units is connected to another processing unit therein, to a second state, wherein one of said plurality of processing units is connected via said network interface to the network and vice versa.